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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/563,300

01/04/2006

Yvon Charbonneau

15782-3US PTN/df

1317

20988 7590 03/09/2009
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EXAMINER

REESE, DAVID C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3677

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

03/09/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/563,300	Applicant(s) CHARBONNEAU, YVON	
	Examiner David C. Reese	Art Unit 3677	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 January 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 7-15 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 16 and 18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

THIS FINAL ACTION IS RESPONSIVE TO THE AMENDMENT FILED 1/15/2009.

- Claim 17 was canceled.
- Claims 1 and 16 were amended.
- Claims 7-15 are withdrawn.
- Claims 1-16 and 18 are pending.

Claim Objections

[1] Claim(s) were previously objected to because of informalities. Applicant has successfully addressed these issues in the amendment filed on 1/15/2009. Accordingly, the objection(s) to the claim(s) have been withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

[2] The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(c) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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[3] Claims 1-2 and 4-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Fassauer et al., US-5,353,534, because the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, or in public use or on sale in this country more than one (1) year prior to the application for patent in the United States.

As for Claim 1, Fassauer et al. discloses of a display apparatus for sequentially displacing sheets (65) to a display position (see figs. 13-16), comprising:

at least one sheet (65) folded over at an edge portion thereof to form an open pleat (around 71, see top of fig. 16);

a drive (19, 58) for displacing sheets (65) to a display position;

an actuator (62) for actuating the drive; and

at least one connector for connecting one of the sheets (65) to the drive such that the sheet is displaceable to the display position, the connector having a longitudinal member (71) connected (via 67 as shown at the top of fig. 13) to the drive such that the pleat is received against an edge of the longitudinal member (see top of fig. 16) with the sheet lying on opposed surfaces of the longitudinal member (71), and an abutment portion (77) securable against the longitudinal member (71) on the sheet (65) for maintaining the sheet (65) against both the opposed surfaces.

Re: Claim 2, further comprising one other connector (67 at the bottom of fig. 16) at an opposite edge portion of the sheet (65) for connecting the opposite edge portion of the sheet (65) to the drive (see bottom of fig. 16).

Re: Claim 4, wherein the drive displaces the sheets (65) in a continuous sequence.

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Re: Claim 5, wherein the actuator (62) has a sensor/controller for detecting the sheets (65) in the display position for predetermined amounts of time.

Re: Claim 6, wherein the sheet (65) is a support sheet adapted to support an advertisement sheet (66).

Allowable Subject Matter

[4] Claims 16 and 18 are allowed.

[5] The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art, either alone or in combination with corresponding limitations as stated above, fails to teach or disclose of the claimed limitations of independent claim 16 along with a resilient spacer between the abutment portion and the longitudinal member for retaining the edge portion of the sheet between the abutment portion and the resilient spacer. Claim 18 is dependent upon claim 16.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee, and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Response to Arguments

[6] Applicant's amendments and arguments filed 1/15/2009 regarding rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. With regard to the current, amended set of claims, the examiner maintains that the prior art of Fassauer et al., remains anticipatory towards amended claim 1. More specifically, the examiner maintains that Fassauer et al., does indeed disclose of at least one sheet (65) folded over at an edge portion thereof to form an open pleat (around 71, see top of fig. 16); and an abutment portion (77) securable against the longitudinal member (71) on the sheet (65) for maintaining the sheet (65) against both the opposed surfaces (of the longitudinal member). Applicant is reminded that claims in a

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pending application should be given their broadest reasonable interpretation. *In re Pearson*, 181 USPQ 641 (CCPA 1974), and that things clearly shown in reference patent drawings qualify as prior art features, even though unexplained by the specification. *In re Mraz*, 173 USPQ 25 (CCPA 1972). Further, it is the claims that define the claimed invention, and it is claims, not specifications that are anticipated or unpatentable. *Constant v. Advanced Micro-Devices Inc.*, 7 USPQ2d 1064.

Conclusion

[7] **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

[8] Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David C. Reese whose telephone number is (571) 272-7082. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am-6:00 pm Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Victor Batson can be reached at (571) 272-6987. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is the following: (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David Reese

/D. C. R./

Examiner, Art Unit 3677

/Victor Batson/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3677